

CLAIMS

1. A multipurpose engineering construction machine of the loader/shovel type comprising a moving chassis in the central part of which there is mounted a driving and control station, said chassis supporting, at the front, a loader assembly and, at the rear, a shovel assembly or excavator, which assemblies can be controlled independently of one another via a hydraulic circuit selectively feeding a number of directional control valves that can be actuated by a manipulator and that control the hydraulic actuators operating the constituent elements of each work tool, characterized in that:
- all the directional control valves supplying the tool control actuators are grouped together in the form of a single module (30) mounted transversely on the chassis, this being between the rear axle and the frame supporting the shovel assembly;
  - the supply of hydraulic fluid is via a variable-throughput pump (36) supplying a priority valve (37) on the direction function, associated with the unit (30) grouping the directional control valves together;
  - the distribution of fluid to each directional control valve is performed with a compensation balance allowing the deliveries to be adjusted in stages.
2. The engineering construction machine as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the directional control valves supplying the actuators that the shovel assembly (7) comprises are manually or hydraulically controlled and the directional control valves of the actuators of the loader assembly (6) are hydraulically controlled.

3. The engineering construction machine as claimed in one of claims 1 and 2, characterized in that the directional control valves (32, 33, 34) of the loader assembly are arranged laterally with respect to those  
5 of the shovel assembly.